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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**8 JUNE 2018**

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#### **(U) CALIFORNIA**

##### **(U) Richmond – Man Faces Up to 23 Years in Prison for Hacking News Sites**

(U) A 35-year-old Richmond man was convicted of hacking into the websites of the Palo Alto Weekly and other newspapers. Ross Colby was found guilty on 6 June by a federal court jury following a six-day trial in San Jose of computer intrusion and of damaging a protected computer. During the computer attack, which occurred in 2015, Colby accessed the email of Embarcadero Media, which operates the Palo Alto Weekly, the Mountain View Voice, the Pleasanton Weekly and the Almanac in Menlo Park. Colby redirected the email, disrupted the publications' operations and canceled Embarcadero Media's online identity. For a period of about 20 hours, the newspaper's sites were disrupted, for a time displaying an image of Guy Fawkes, the 17th Century English political activist executed for treason who has become the symbol of the Anonymous hacker movement.

SOURCE: 7 June 2018, [SF Gate](#)

#### **(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**

##### **(U) California – ICE Plans to Send 1,600 Immigrant Detainees to Federal Prisons**

(U) Victorville – US Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials plan to transfer some 1,000 immigrant detainees to federal prisons across the United States, with the largest group heading to a prison in Victorville, California this weekend. Immigration authorities have entered into an agreement with the Bureau of Prisons for more than 1,600 beds as a temporary measure until ICE can obtain additional long-term contracts for new detention facilities or until the surge in illegal border crossings subsides. While approximately 1,000 detainees will be sent to Victorville, the remainder are slated for prisons in Seattle; La Tuna, Texas; Sheridan, Oregon; and Phoenix.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, [The Mercury News](#)

#### **(U) NATIONAL**

##### **(U) Florida – Man Pleads Guilty to Bomb, Anthrax Threat to Judge**

(U) Pensacola – A Florida inmate pled guilty to threatening a judge who presided over his case. A US Attorney's Office news release says 29-year-old Craig Pope pleaded guilty yesterday in Pensacola federal court to mailing threatening communications and threatened use of a weapon of mass destruction. He faces a possible life sentence at a 20 August hearing. Authorities say Pope was an inmate at the Santa Rosa Correctional Institution last spring when he sent two threatening letters to a Hillsborough County judge. The first letter said someone would die if Pope wasn't returned to court within 48 hours. The second letter contained a white powder and threatened that a bomb was set to go off. Testing determined the powder wasn't dangerous. Pope also claimed a connection to ISIS.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, [The Washington Times](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Austria – Austria to Shut Down Mosques, Expel Foreign-Funded Imams**

(U) Vienna – Austria's right-wing government plans to shut seven mosques and could expel dozens of imams in what it said was "just the beginning" of a push against radical Islam and foreign funding of religious groups that Turkey condemned as racist. The moves follow a "law on Islam," passed in 2015, which banned foreign funding of religious groups and created a duty for Muslim organizations to have "a positive fundamental view towards (Austria's) state and society." Austria, a country of 8.8 million people, has roughly 600,000 Muslim inhabitants, most of whom are Turkish or have families of Turkish origin.

SOURCE: 8 June 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) China – US Expands Health Alert amid Illness Reports**

(U) Guangzhou – The US State Department today issued an expanded health alert for all of China amid reports some US diplomats based in the country had experienced a mysterious malady that resembles a brain injury and has already affected US personnel in Cuba. A previous statement in May only mentioned the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou as the location for the health alert, though it was sent to US citizens throughout the country. The United States also operates consulates in the mainland Chinese cities of Chengdu, Shanghai, Shenyang and Wuhan. The location of the health alert was changed to "countrywide" from Guangzhou in the updated statement sent by email.

SOURCE: 6 June 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Libya – UN Sanctions Six People for Human-Trafficking**

(U) Tripoli – Yesterday, the United Nations Security Council sanctioned six people for involvement in human trafficking and smuggling of migrants in Libya after Russia lifted a hold it had set on the request for action against the individuals. The Netherlands, backed by France, Germany, Britain and the United States, asked the 15-member council's Libya sanctions committee last month to impose a global asset freeze and travel ban on the six people.

SOURCE: 7 June 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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